

**BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

In the Matter of the Revocation	)	
	)	
or Suspension of the Educator	)	<b>ORDER OF SUSPENSION</b>
	)	<b>(BREACH OF CONTRACT)</b>
Certificate of Crystal D. Rentz	)	
	)	
Certificate # 195001	)	

**SUMMARY OF THE CASE**

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on November 12, 2003. On September 29, 2003, the State Department of Education (Department) sent Ms. Crystal D. Rentz a notice of her right to a due process hearing regarding the possible suspension of her South Carolina educator certificate (certificate) by certified mail, return receipt requested, delivery restricted to addressee. Ms. Rentz received the notice, as evidenced by the postal receipt bearing her signature. Ms. Rentz did not request a hearing during the period allowed by law, and is now in default. After considering the evidence presented by the Department, which was undisputed by Ms. Rentz, the State Board voted to suspend Ms. Rentz 's certificate for one year.

Ms. Rentz holds a valid certificate, with over four years of teaching experience. During the 2002-2003 school year she was a teacher at Chandler Creek Elementary School in the Greenville County School District (District). She signed a contract with the District for the 2003-2004 school year. On August 5, 2003, Ms. Rentz submitted her resignation, effective immediately, to her principal. Her reason was that she was taking a job with an insurance and investment firm. On August 11, 2003, the Superintendent wrote Ms. Rentz to remind her that her resignation did not comply with District policy and that he would recommend to the Board that a complaint should be filed with the State Board. On September 9, 2003, the District Board voted to file a breach of contract complaint against Ms. Rentz with the State Board.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

The State Board may suspend the certificate of any person for breach of contract. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-530 (1990). Unprofessional conduct includes breach of contract. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (1990); 24 S.C. Code Regs. 43-58 (1992). The State Board finds that there is conclusive evidence supporting its decision to suspend Ms. Rentz 's certificate # 195001 for a period of one year from November 12, 2003, through November 11, 2004, on the ground of unprofessional conduct due to breach of contract. At the end of the suspension period if she wants her certificate reinstated, Ms. Rentz may make a written request for reinstatement to the Office of Teacher Education and Certification of the Department.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: /S/ Greg Killian

Greg Killian

Chair

Columbia, South Carolina  
November 12, 2003